NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY | Department of Environmental Conservation

# Environmental Site Remediation Database Search Details

## Site Record

### Document Repository

Site-related documents are available for review through the DECInfo Locator on line at DECInfoLocator

## Administrative Information

**Site Name:** Stauffer Chemical, Whittaker Subdivision
**Site Code:** 932034
**Program:** State Superfund Program
Classification: N *
**EPA ID Number:**

## Location

**DEC Region:** 9
**Address:** 1169 Upper Mountain Road
**City:**Lewiston Zip: 14092
**County:**Niagara
**Latitude:** 43.168130556
**Longitude:** -78.997688889
**Site Type:**
**Estimated Size:** 0.5 Acres

## Site Owner(s) and Operator(s)

**Current Owner Name:** MR. WHITTAKER
**Current Owner(s) Address:** 1169 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD
LEWISTON,NY, 14092
**Current Owner Name:** Victoria and Raymond McKay
**Current Owner(s) Address:** 1169 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD
LEWISTON,NY, 14092
**Owner(s) during disposal:** MR. WHITTAKER
**Current On-Site Operator:** Stauffer Chemical
**Stated Operator(s) Address:**
WESTPORT,ZZ 06881

## Site Description

SMC-789 1166

Location: The Stauffer Chemical, Whittaker Subdivision Site is located in an rural residential area in the Town of Lewiston, New York. The site is approximately 1.92 miles northeast of the intersection of Upper Mountain Road and Military Road on the north side of Upper Mountain Road. The site is also adjacent to the Tuscarora Indian Reservation to the East. Site Features: There are no specific and distinct features of the site since it has been redeveloped into a residential area consisting of typical residential homes. The original canal structure began in the area where Upper Mountain Road currently exists and extended three blocks (1800 feet) north past Escarpment Drive to the edge of the Niagara escarpment. Current Zoning and Land Use: The site is currently is zoned for residential use. Past Use of the Site: The site was used by Stauffer Chemical to bury approx. 50,000 cubic yards of asbestos, cell parts, reactor linings, scrap sulfur and other metallic industrial wastes. Burial of wastes took place in the northern extension of Love Canal in the eastern area of the Whittaker Subdivision. It is suspected that the site was also used by Union Carbide for disposal of their fluoride containing flux. U.S.E.P.A. directed an investigation of the site in May and June of 1979. A Phase I Investigation was completed in 1989. Limited data is available on groundwater quality. The direction of groundwater flow is uncertain but presumed to be north towards the escarpment. Sulfate, chloride, nitrates, cyanide, fluoride and phenol were found in groundwater in the old canal areas. A Preliminary Site Assessment (PSA) was also completed in December 1992. This investigation revealed that soils/fill on all the parcels originally thought to be part of this site, with the exception of 1169 Upper Mountain Road, do not exhibit chemical characteristics that would cause them to be defined as hazardous waste. One subsurface soil sample collected at 1169 Upper Mountain Rd. contained PCBs at a concentration of 26 ppm and mercury at a concentration of 132 ppm. Groundwater standards have been exceeded for trichloroethylene, antimony, chromium and lead. Surface water standards were exceeded for phenol, 4-methyl- phenol, zinc, cyanide, arsenic, lead and mercury. Based upon the results of the PSA investigation, the original site boundaries were modified to include only 1169 Upper Mountain Rd. The results of additional investigations at this property did not document the presence of hazardous waste so the site was delisted from the Registry in 1995. Site Geology and Hydrogeology: Site surface soils consist of approximately 3 to 15 feet of loose, unconsolidated saturated fill and glaciolacustrine deposits overlying fractured Lockport Dolomite bedrock. The thickness of the overburden decreases from south to north toward the Niagara Escarpment. Fill material varied across the site, but consisted mainly of brown, red-brown, and gray sandy silt and silty clay with fragments of brick, coal, glass, fibrous material, and organic material. Much of this material is interpreted to be backfilled native soil. The groundwater flow directions at the site cannot be contoured due to the fact that the wells on-site monitor two distinct water-bearing zones (overburden and bedrock); however, the generalized groundwater flow is north toward the Niagara Escarpment.

## Site Environmental Assessment

SMC-789 1167

No Hazardous Waste was documented to have been disposed at this site therefore the site does not meet the regulatory requirements for inlcusion on the Registry.

## Site Health Assessment

Ten homes in this residential development are built on top of the former canal area. It is assumed that at least one foot of clean fill covers the wastes. Residents are supplied with public water, but on the Tuscarora Indian Reservation to the east, groundwater is used for drinking and irrigation. The reservation wells have not been sampled to date, because the escapment strongly influences groundwater flow and groundwater flow would not be toward the reservation. Samples collected from a basement sump in 1989 and 1993 revealed low concentrations of PCBs and other contaminants. Soil samples taken during the PSA showed elevated levels of mercury and PCBs in a subsurface soil sample collected between 2' to 4' BGS. Further sampling has been done in this area to delineate the extent of contamination and to assist in determining possible concerns for human health. The residents have been advised on how to minimize their exposure to subsurface contaminants.

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* **Class N Sites:** "DEC offers this information with the caution that the amount of information provided for Class N sites is highly variable, not necessarily based on any DEC investigation, sometimes of unknown origin, and sometimes is many years old. Due to the preliminary nature of this information, significant conclusions or decisions should not be based solely upon this summary."

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